

This is the Klamath Basin Refuges Hunter Hotline recorded on October 6, 2004

A successful pre season youth hunt was conducted on California portions of Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Refuges the weekend of September 25th and 26th. Youth hunters averaged close to 4 ducks per youth hunter in marsh units and well over a goose per hunter in field units on the two refuges. Afternoon youth hunts will be conducted on both refuges on the following Saturday afternoons: October 16, October 23 and November 27.

The Oregon and California regular season waterfowl hunts for both ducks and geese will begin on October 9, 2004. For details hunters should consult the Oregon and California 2004-05 game bird regulations. Opening weekend hunting on the California portions of these two Refuges is by advanced drawing. A refuge open house will be held the evening of October 8th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at refuge headquarters.

Refuge hunting unit reports are as follows:

Tule Lake — Several changes have been made in the locations of the Tule Lake Spaced-blinds this year. Contact the refuge at (530) 667-2231 for an updated map. Marsh units Sump 1A, Sump 1B and the D unit spaced-blinds are fully flooded.

Lower Klamath marsh – Marsh units anticipated to be flooded and boatable by the opening weekend of waterfowl hunting season are Units 6A, and 9A. Unit 7A is currently receiving water and may be boat accessible but somewhat below normal water levels by opening weekend. Motorless units 4B and 4C are also boat accessible. Unit 8B will not be fully flooded by opening weekend but may provide some walk in hunting opportunity. The south portion of the recently acquired Sterns/Orem units will also be shallowly flooded during the early portion of the waterfowl hunting season.

Three pit blinds will be available in flooded Sterns units this year. There will be a morning lottery drawing at 5:45 a.m. (5:15 after daylight savings ends) at the Lower Klamath entrance station for hunters who wish to use these blinds.

Lower Klamath fields – Units 4A, 4D, 7B, 9D, the fields west of the Sheepy East Road and Sterns fields 2-4 should be available for field goose hunting opportunities early in the season. For updated hunting information consult the Refuge web page at “klamathbasinrefuges.fws.gov.”

If you wish to leave a message or ask a question; wait for the beep and record.